

AGENCY AT A *glance*
 SO FAR THIS YEAR...

- 8,718 impaired drivers arrested
- 25,877 collisions investigated
- 226 fatality collisions
- 22,910 distracted drivers
- 23,838 seatbelt violations
- 98,754 aggressive driver contacts
- 273,622 excessive speed contacts
- 32,164 CMV inspections

COMMS
Call-log

Our Washington State Patrol (WSP) communications officer's across the state handle a variety of calls from those in need 24/7. Below is a glimpse of the work they handled in September 2023:

- 27,779 9-1-1 calls
- 59,685 business calls
- 78,059 total CAD logs

DO YOU HAVE STORIES YOU WANT TO SHARE?

SEND THEM IN - We strive to highlight the amazing work across the agency. If you have something happening in your division or district you would like to see highlighted in a future edition of *The Milepost*, please e-mail pio@wsp.wa.gov.

SEATBELTS SAVE LIVES



BUCKLE UP. EVERY TRIP. EVERY TIME.

WSP now hiring lateral officers



STATEWIDE - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) is accepting lateral hires for the first time in the agency's more than 100-year history. The move comes in response to hiring and retention challenges felt by law enforcement agencies across the country.

"We need more great people to join our agency who'll help us continue to meet the needs of Washingtonians, that they've long enjoyed and expect from us," said WSP Chief John R. Batiste.

The agency is aiming to have 40 lateral hires in time for the inaugural class slated to begin in March 2024, with a second class expected later in the year.

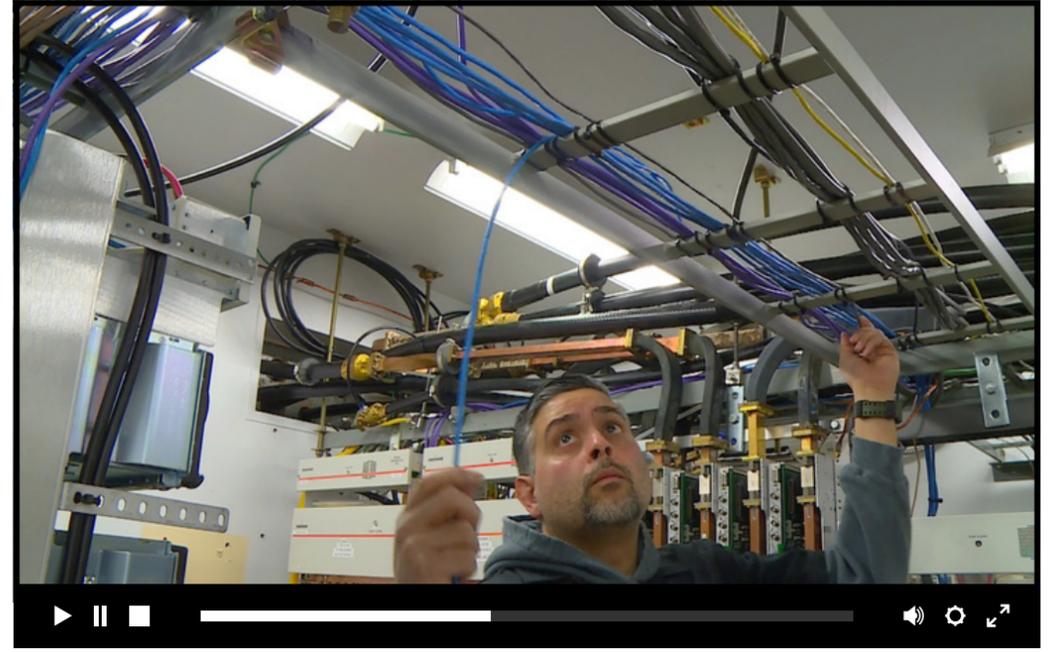
To learn more about the lateral program and lateral hiring process, please visit the [dedicated lateral hire page on our agency website](#).

Congratulations October promotees



OLYMPIA, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) proudly promoted five individuals during the October promotion ceremony held at the Helen Somers Building earlier this month. The promotees included: Captain James Mjor II promoted to the Assistant Chief of the Field Operations Bureau (FOB); Sergeant George Steele promoted to Lieutenant in District 8 - North Region; Sergeant Will Stellmacher promoted to Lieutenant in the Motor Carrier Safety Division (MCSA); Trooper Ryan Hagreen promoted to Sergeant in District 7 - Burlington; and Mr. Konner Fleming promoted to Program Specialist 5 in the Firearms Background Division. Congratulations to you all! Did you miss the ceremony? You can watch it on the WSP YouTube Channel by visiting [here](#).

SPOTLIGHT: Electronic Services Division



LEARN ABOUT ESD - Meet Ray Martinez, a Senior Telecommunications Specialist for the Washington State Patrol (WSP). Martinez serves in the WSP Electronic Services Division (ESD), and is responsible for ensuring 24/7 radio communication between troopers, commercial vehicle enforcement officers, other state enforcement agencies, and our WSP communications officers. Our telecommunications crew has the autonomy to schedule and work on projects based on their area's needs. From radio testing to radar calibration, from tower climbing to working at a mountain top base station, Martinez embraces the responsibility of his career. "Those base stations have to be on, and they have to be functioning 24/7 to ensure that communication lifeline never gets interrupted". Learn more about the job [here](#).

Battle of the Badges softball game



BREMERTON, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) and Bremerton Police Department (BPD) challenged the Central Kitsap Fire Department to a friendly 'Battle of the Badges' softball game last month. The community event allowed for the first responders to spend some off duty time together, mixed with some good competition. The firefighters were victorious this round, but the law enforcement team is ready for a rematch next year.

Firearms background check training for FBD



STATEWIDE - FBI trainers traveled cross Washington State throughout late September providing firearm background check training to the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Firearms Background Division staff. A total of 140 people attended the course, with classes given across the state in Snohomish County, Olympia, Federal Way, Yakima, and Spokane.

Firearms Background Division celebration



OLYMPIA, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Firearms Background Division hosted their first teambuilding celebration last month. The team was happy to have Chief Batiste stop by and speak with the staff, which included its 21 new staff members.

VIN, CVEB partner to train CBP officers



BLAINE, Wash. - Washington State Patrol (WSP) VIN inspectors and members of the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau (CVEB) partnered to provide a joint two-day training to the Customs and Border Protection last month. The 40-person class learned specifics on VIN, including how to identify counterfeits, cloning, and commercial vehicle VIN issues.

VIN program hosts 2023 in-service



ELLENSBURG, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol's Criminal Investigation Division (CID) VIN program had their annual in-service in Ellensburg, which included a visit from the HOPE dogs.

honesty - integrity - accountability - attention to detail - work ethic

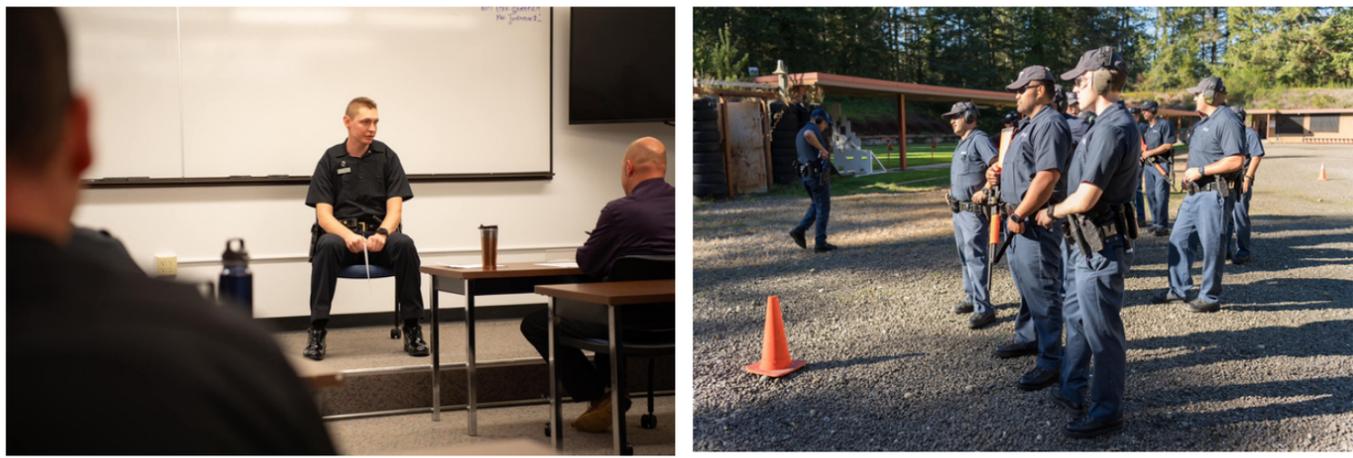
2nd Annual Gundy-hole Cornhole Tournament



SECOND ANNUAL EVENT - The Washington State Patrol Athletic Association hosted the second annual Gundy-hole Cornhole Tournament in honor of fallen Detective Eric Gunderson on Sunday, Oct. 1. An impressive 44 teams signed up to play with more than 100 people in attendance. Eric's family was also able to attend, including his wife and two sons. The first place winner was Blake Gunderson (Eric's eldest son) and his friend. Great job to all who participated in this amazing event!

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Academy Check-in: 118th TBTC, 19th CVEOs



SHELTON, Wash. - The Washington State Patrol (WSP) academy continues to be busy as the cadets of the 118th Trooper Basic Training Class (TBTC) and recruits of the 19th Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer (CVEO) Basic class train. From the drive course to the classroom, firing range to controlled tactics in the gym, the cadets and recruits are working hard toward their goal to one day soon graduate and help serve communities across the state.

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